## **Bonneville Power Administration**

## memorandum

**DATE:** August 4, 2003

REPLY TO KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-113)

то: Gerald McClintock

Fish and Wildlife Project Manager, KEWU-4

**Proposed Action:** Pahsimeroi Holistic Restoration – Moen Riparian Fence

**Project No:** 2002-063-00

Wildlife Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS): 4.12 Filter Strips, 6.1 Deferred Grazing

**Location:** Custer County, Idaho

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Custer Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD)

<u>Description of the Proposed Action</u>: The Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to fund a riparian area fencing project with the Custer Soil and Water Conservation District in Custer County, Idaho. The proposed project will involve the installation of approximately 5,700 feet of riparian fence along the west side of the Pahsimeroi River. The fence will be a jack post and pole fence and therefore will require no ground disturbance to construct.

<u>Analysis</u>: The compliance checklist for this project was completed by Karma Bragg with the Custer Soil and Water Conservation District (July 28, 2003) and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species that may occur in the general vicinity of the project area are gray wolf, Canada lynx, bald eagle, Ute ladies'tresses, chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, BPA determined that the proposed actions would have no effect on any ESA listed species. The area proposed for disturbance is a cultivated field that is currently in pasture production. Current land management and agricultural practices do not lend the site to the presence of Ute ladies'tresses. No ground disturbing activities are proposed, therefore no impacts to aquatic species are anticipated. In addition, noise and human presence associated with the fence construction will not exceed the existing levels on the site from ongoing agricultural activities.

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, a cultural and historic resource review including a field survey of the project site were completed by a qualified archaeologist with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). No resources were discovered as a result of this review. NRCS's findings were submitted to the Idaho State Historic

Preservation Office for consideration. Based on these findings and the nature of the proposed action, BPA has determined that this project will have no effect on cultural and/or historic resources. In the unlikely event that archaeological material is encountered during project construction, a qualified archaeologist should be notified and work halted in the vicinity of the finds until they can be inspected and assessed.

Standard water quality protection procedures and Best Management Practices will be followed during the implementation of this project. No construction is authorized to begin until the proponent has obtained all applicable local, state, and federal permits and approvals.

Public involvement has taken place as part of the Moen Riparian Fence Project. The project has been coordinated through the Upper Salmon Basin Technical Team composed of numerous technical representatives including U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, the Shoshone/ Bannock Tribe, and Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Technical Team meetings are held monthly and are open to the public. In addition, this project has been discussed at the Custer Soil and Water Conservation District's monthly meetings.

<u>Findings</u>: The project is generally consistent with Section 7.6A.2, 7.6B.3, & 7.8E.1, of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. This Supplement Analysis finds 1) that the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD, and, 2) that there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Shannon Stewart 8/04/03 Shannon C. Stewart Environmental Specialist

CONCUR:

/s/ Thomas C. McKinney DATE: August 8,2003
Thomas C. McKinney

NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachments:

NEPA Compliance Checklist Cultural Resource Project Review, July 28, 2002

cc: (w/ attachments)

Ms. Karma Bragg – Custer Soil and Water Conservation District